



Appointments and Briefings

June 13, 2016 – 7:02 PM – **Minutes**
Chambers of the City Council, Room 214

MEETING: COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS & BRIEFINGS

DATE: JUNE 13, 2016

TIME: 7:02 P.M.

PLACE: CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, ROOM 214, MUNICIPAL BUILDING

PRESENT: COUNCILLORS HENRY BOUSQUET, CHAIRMAN; BRIAN GOMES, VICE-CHAIRMAN (7:06); IAN ABREU; NAOMI CARNEY (7:05); DEBORA COELHO; JOSEPH LOPES; STEVEN MARTINS; LINDA MORAD; JAMES OLIVEIRA; DANA REBEIRO (7:08)

ABSENT: COUNCILLOR KERRY WINTERSON

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Councillor Bousquet called the Appointments & Briefings Committee Meeting to order and took attendance. The Clerk informed the Committee that Councillor Winterson called him to say he would not be in attendance this evening.

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Councillor Bousquet announced the start of Citizens Input Time, not to exceed the first half hour of the Appointments & Briefings Meeting. (1, 1a, 1b, 1c)

Joyce Rowley was scheduled to appear but called the Office to say she was unable to make this meeting but will attend the next Appointments & Briefings Committee Meeting. (1a)

James Openshaw of 367 Cedar Street, New Bedford, MA was present and spoke about parking in school zones. (1b)

Ivan Dias of 415 Cedar Street, New Bedford, MA was present and spoke about getting financial assistance in placing a sidewalk on his property, claiming safety issues as students walk to and from school. (1c)

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, Mayor Mitchell, to City Council, submitting the APPOINTMENT of DENNIS AUDETTE, New Bedford, MA, as the Conservation Commission representative to the COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE; this term will expire April 2019. (Ref'd 5/12/16) (2)

The Chair informed the Committee that Mr. Audette was unable to attend this meeting, but will be able to attend the next Appointments & Briefings Meeting.

On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Coelho, the Committee VOTED: To table this matter at this time. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, Mayor Mitchell, to City Council, submitting the APPOINTMENT of TIM WALSH, New Bedford, MA as the New Bedford Housing Authority representative to the COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE; this term will expire April 2018 (Ref'd 4/14/16, 5/17/16-tabled) was removed from the table by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Carney. (3)

Attorney Tim Walsh of 37 Moreland Terrace, New Bedford, MA was present and answered questions from the Committee.

Councillor Abreu asked about his credentials, to which he responded he is a lifelong resident of New Bedford, a member of the New Bedford Housing Authority Board, and is excited about this great initiative that will help with the upkeep of the city.

Councillors Morad, Lopes, Oliveira and Rebeiro stated they were pleased that he is looking to distribute the funding throughout the city for worthwhile projects.

On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Oliveira, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council, APPROVAL of the APPOINTMENT of TIM WALSH, New Bedford, MA as the New Bedford Housing Authority representative to the COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE; this term will expire April 2018. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, City Clerk/ Clerk of the City Council, to City Council, on behalf of **Daniel Xavier, d/b/a MCKENZIE'S BUS CO., 183 Campbell Street, New Bedford, MA 02740** hereby submit a copy of the Application requesting a **RENEWAL** of a **Private Livery License**, under the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 159A, Section 1 and amendments thereto, and M.G.L. Chapter 270, Section 22 (Smoke Free Workplace Law) and all other laws applicable to such operation, to carry passengers for hire over the streets of New Bedford (**Current License expires June 25, 2016.**) (Ref'd 5/12/16) was received and placed on file by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Oliveira. (4)

Daniel Xavier of 183 Campbell Street, New Bedford was present to answer questions from the Committee. Councillor Carney questioned Mr. Xavier about issues that were brought to her attention as it relates to one of his employees smoking in a business vehicle; especially since the smoke free workplace law is a part of the granting of the livery license. Mr. Xavier said he was aware of the issue and had brought it to the attention of his employee a few times and he had to eventually terminate the individual for not following the rules.

On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Martins, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the APPLICATION on behalf of ***Daniel Xavier, d/b/a MCKENZIE'S BUS CO., 183 Campbell Street, New Bedford, MA 02740*** for a **RENEWAL** of a ***Private Livery License***, under the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 159A, Section 1 and amendments thereto, and M.G.L. Chapter 270, Section 22 (Smoke Free Workplace Law) and all other laws applicable to such operation, to carry passengers for hire over the streets of New Bedford. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Written Motion, Councillors Lopes, Martins, Council President Morad, Councillors Oliveira and Winterson, requesting that James L. O'Brien, Superintendent of Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School, appear before the Committee on Appointments and Briefings to update the Council on the independent study's findings of school climate conducted by Brown University during the 2015-16 school year (Ref'd 5/12/16) was received and placed on file by Councillor Oliveira and seconded by Councillor Lopes. (5)

Mr. James O'Brien, Superintendent/Director Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School was present and gave an overview of the study done by Brown University. The report was distributed and a motion was made to receive and place it on file by Councillor Oliveira and seconded by Councillor Lopes.

Mr. O'Brien introduced Mr. Warley Williams, Assistant Principal and the person responsible for adopting those recommendations by Brown University.

A conversation ensued between the Councillors, Mr. O'Brien and Mr. Williams on what steps were in place and what was being worked on as it related to the treatment of bullying, and those of the LGBT community within the school. The conversation included training sessions for all staff, zero tolerance to bullying, holding adults accountable, reaching out to students/parents when there is an issue, helping their staff build cultural capacity; that each complaint that is brought to their attention will from the date the report was received be addressed moving forward.

Mr. Williams gave an overview of the investigation process when a report is filed. He had copies of the steps and they were distributed to the Committee. A motion was made to receive and place it on file by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Morad.

The steps included: Receive report, investigate, make those involved aware of rights, discipline and follow up after plan of action has been initiated to make sure the issue no longer continues to be an issue. The objective is to prevent incidents from happening again.

At the completion of discussion amongst the Committee and invited guests, the following motion was made:

On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Lopes, the Committee VOTED: To take "No Further Action" on this matter at this time. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Written Motion, Council President Gomes, requesting, that the Committee on Appointments & Briefings meet with the Library Director and Library Board of Trustees, for the purpose of discussing the location, storage and the value of the artwork that the City owns; and further that the Library Board of Trustees take the Committee on tour of this artwork. (Ref'd 7/16/15)
(6)

Councillor Bousquet read a Communication from Olivia Melo, Library Director, apologizing for her absence from the meeting, but she would gladly meet with the Councillors on the issue as well as organize a tour.

Councillor Gomes, maker of the motion, told the Committee that he realizes that we have a very valuable collection and he wants to make sure it is properly being protected. He would like an inventory of all pieces owned by the library.

On motion by Councillor Gomes and seconded by Councillor Coelho, the Committee VOTED: To table this matter at this time.

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On motion by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Rebeiro, the Committee VOTED: To waive the reading and follow the Chair's recommendation to take "No Further Action" on items seven (7), eight (8) and nine (9) at this time. This motion passed on a voice vote. They are as follows:

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, City Clerk/ Clerk of the City Council, to City Council, on behalf of **Joseph Migliori, d/b/a JOE'S TRANSPORTATION, 99 David Street, New Bedford, MA 02744**, hereby submits a copy of Application requesting a **NEW PRIVATE LIVERY LICENSE**, under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 159A, Section 1, and amendments thereto, and M.G.L. Chapter 270, Section 22 (Smoke Free Workplace Law) and all other laws applicable to such operation to carry passengers for hire over the streets of New Bedford. (Ref'd 1/14/16, 3/8/16- tabled, 4/12/16- tabled, applicant not in attendance, 2 times) (7)

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Written Motion, Councillor Lopes, requesting that the Committee on Appointments and Briefings meet with the Acting Personnel Director, Sandy Vezina to discuss and draft policies and procedures that would allow for Municipal employees to begin automatic payroll deductions since that the City is now doing direct deposit for all City employees. (Ref'd 9/24/15) (8)

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Written Motion, Councillors Lopes, Martins, Winterson, Oliveira, Bousquet, Rebeiro, Coelho, Alves, Carney, Morad and Council President Gomes, requesting that Ms. Sandra Vezina, the Acting Personnel Director meet with a Representative from New York Life Insurance to discuss the implementation of voluntary Payroll Deduction program for employees of the City of New Bedford. (Ref'd 3/12/15, 4/14/15 – tabled for 30 days – pending reply from Personnel, 11/10/15 – waive reading and remain in Committee) (9)

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication/ Demolition, New Bedford Historical Commission, to City Council, re: **BUILDING DEMOLITION REVIEW OF 241-243 MILL STREET, (MAP 57, LOT 142)** Circa 1895 one story, wood framed, barn structure – advising that " the structure is not located in a National Register Historic District; the structure is of no notable historic significance either recorded or found with the existing condition of the structure; the structure is in poor condition due to extensive deferred maintenance, and the restoration or preservation efforts would be impractical due to the existing condition of the structure, " the New Bedford Historical Commission has determined that the

structure at 241-243 Mill Street is NOT a Historically Significant building or structure and not Preferably Preserved.” (Ref’d 4/28/16) (10)

On motion by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Rebeiro, the Committee VOTED: To recommend that the City Council GRANT PERMISSION for the Demolition of 241-243MILL STREET, Map 57, Lot 142 as the New Bedford Historical Commission has determined that the structure is NOT a Historically significant building or structure and not Preferably Preserved. This motion passed on a voice vote.

Councillor Oliveira made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Councillor Carney.

This meeting adjourned @ 8:10 p.m.

ATTEST:

Clerk of Committees